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Executive Registry
88-0404X

áfrica

confidencial

THE HONORABLE WILLIAM H. WEBSTER DIRECTOR, CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY LANGLEY, VIRGINIA 23665
U.S.A.

Dear Judge Webster:

I am writing to you in hope of obtaining a personal interview with former Cuban General Raphael Del Pino, who, according to press accounts, is in your care. I would like to meet and talk with him at your earliest convenience.

My name is Xavier de Figueiredo and I am the Director of the well known Portuguese monthly news bulletin "Africa Confidencial" and its sister publication in english, "Informafrica". I research and write articles on lusophone african affairs, particulary Angola, while I have long been concerned about the destabilizing effects of foreign forces in Angola and the unsuitability of marxist-leninist policies for african economic and political development.

I was born in Huambo, Angola, in 1947 and lived in Angola until 1975, when I grew disillusioned with the turn of angolan events and came to Portugal. Prior to leaving Angola I became a Professional Journalist, having served as a Sergeant in the Portuguese colonial army during the early seventies. I later served as the bureau chief for the former Portuguese news Agency "ANOP" (Now "LUSA") in the former Portuguese colony of Guinea-Bissau from 1978-81, chief of ANOP'S Africa desk in Lisbon from 1981-82, and later chief of the ANOP bureau in Maputo, Mozambique from 1982-83, when I was expelled by the marxist Frelimo government. In 1984 I returned briefly to Mozambique to accompany Portuguese President Mario Soares on an officiall visit there at his request.

O AFRINE P - 1300 USBOA

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Since starting my newsletter in 1986, I have become increasingly concerned about the war in Angola and the aggravating effect on that war of the presence of 50.000 cuban troops. For this reason, I would consider it a great honor and rare privilege to be able to speak face to face with General Del Pino about cuban involvement in Africa. I would like to obtain his views on the Angola war: This would seem to be a useful adjunct to the knowledge I gained during my visit with UNITA leaders at their Jamba headquarters in 1987. I believe that a personal interview with General Del Pino would help my readers in the more than 30 countries where my bulletin is read to be better informed regarding cuban and soviet objectives in Angola. Also, from time to time, I appear in the Portuguese print media and on Portuguese radio and television in order to provide an analysis of angolan events. I have also been interviwed by the BBC and VOA for broadcast to Africa in the Portuguese language over the last several years.

I take great pride in my status as a professional journalist and I always try to obtain the facts from the best possible source. For this reason, I believe that a personal interview with General Del Pino cannot but help clarify the true nature of the war in Angola.

I eagerly await your reply.

Respectfully Yours,

Xavier de Figueiredo